Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14446 061747Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----116818 062119Z /64

R 061656Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6971

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EXDIS

FOR MAYNES AND GILLIGAN ONLY

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: FAO

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)

REF: (A) STATE 203090 (B) ROME 14171

1. AL-SUDEARY, CHAIRMAN OF THE IFAD PREPARATORY COMMISSION, CALLED DEPUTY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN TO DISCUSS RESTRICTED TRANSMITTAL OF FOLLOWING LETTER TO AID ADMINISTRATOR GILLIGAN. FOLLOWING LETTER IS RESPONSE TO GILLIGAN'S LETTER TO AL-SUDEARY, REF (A).

AL-SUDEARY WISHED TO PUT IN WRITING, IN HIS WORDS, HIS POSITION ON IFAD VICE-PRESIDENCY ISSUE, SEE REF (B). YOU WILL NOTE LETTER IS MUCH

MORE DEFINITELY IN SUPPORT OF U.S. POSITION OF A SINGLE VICE PRESIDENT.

2. AL-SUDEARY ALSO DESPERATELY WANTS THE U.S. TO DEPOSIT ITS RATIFICATION OF THE IFAD AGREEMENT. HE STRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THIS MESSAGE MIGHT FACILITATE U.S. DEPOSIT. HE IS ALSO CONSIDERING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WRITING SECRETARY VANCE AND AMBASSDOR YOUNG. ANY ENCOURAGING RESPONSE TO AL-SUDEARY ON THIS LAST ISSUE WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

3. TEXT OF LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT

DEAR GOVERNOR GILLIGAN:

I HAD THE HONOR OF RECEIVING YOUR KIND MESSAGE THROUGH THE

AMERICAN EMBASSY IN ROME AND WISH TO EXPRESS MY HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT BY PRESIDENT CARTER AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF IFAD. I WANT ALSO TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION TO YOUR KIND WORDS ABOUT MY ROLE IN THE COMMISSION

WITH REFERENCE TO THE POST OF THE VICE PRESIDENT I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT I AM OF THE SAME OPINION THAT THERE SHOULD BE ONLY ONE VICE PRESIDENT ESPECIALLY AS WE MUST ALL HONOR THE ARTICLE OF THE AGREEMENT. MAY I POINT OUT THAT I HAVE MENTIONED CONFIDENTIALLY TO ONE OR TWO PEOPLE THE IDEA OF HAVING MORE THAN ONE VICE PRESIDENT ONLY IF THIS WOULD SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF THE SEAT AND THAT SUCH PROPOSAL WOULD MEET THE APPROVAL OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF IFAD. SINCE THE PROBLEM OF THE SEAT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SOLVED AT LEAST FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND SINCE I HAVE NEVER SUGGESTED SUCH IDEA TO THOSE WHO ARE CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEM, MY STAND IS STILL AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ONE VICE PRESIDENT.

AS U.S. IS THE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD BE FROM U.S. FOR THIS REASON I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT I WOULD ONLY APPOINT A VICE PRESIDENT WHO WOULD BE ENDORSED FULLY BY U.S. GOVERNMENT AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THE SELECTION OF THE MOST APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE SHORTLY BEFORE OR AFTER THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

MAY I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THE RATIFICATION OF IFAD AGREEMENT BY U.S. WHOSE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION AND

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ITS LEADING AND POSITIVE ROLE IN ALL THE STAGES OF IFAD ESTABLISHMENT

ARE WELL KNOWN. NOW WITH RATIFICATION OF GOOD NUMBER OF COUNTRIES AND PARTICULARLY FROM CATEGORY II, U.S. RATIFICATION IS THE MOST DETERMINING FACTOR IN THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT. MAY I POINT OUT THAT ANY FURTHER DELAY IN THE DEPOSITION OF THE INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION BY U.S. COULD BE MISINTERPRETED ESPECIALLY AS ALL THE NECESSARY STEPS HAD BEEN COMPLETED.

I HOPE YOUR EXCELLENCY SHARES MY APPREHENSION THAT FURTHER
DELAY IN THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE AGREEMENT WILL CAUSE A
HARMFUL EFFECT TO THE MOMENTUM AND TO THE IMAGE OF IFAD WHICH
HAD BEEN BUILT THROUGH LONG PROCESS OF COLLECTIVE EFFORT AMONG
THE INTERESTED COUNTRIES. IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT U.S.
RATIFY SO THAT THOSE WHO HAVE NOT DONE SO WOULD BE EITHER
ENCOURAGED OR INFLUENCED THROUGH INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO TO SO.

PLEASE ACCEPT, YOUR EXCELLENCY, MY HIGHEST REGARDS.

(SIGNED) ABDELMUHSIN AL-SUDEARY

END TEXT

4. AL-SUDEARY WISHED LETTER TO BE HIGHLY RESTRICTED IN TRANSMITTAL BY CABLE AND ORIGINAL WILL FOLLOW WHEN SAUDI EMBASSY FINISHES TYPING A CLEAN COPY. FOR PURPOSES OF CONFIDENTIALITY, AL-SUDEARY DID NOT WISH TO USE IIFAD SECRETARIAT. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, MEETING REPORTS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME14446
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770322-0797 Format: TEL

From: ROME **Handling Restrictions:**

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770995/aaaadbue.tel

Line Count: 116 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d510784d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION SS

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY Reference: 77 STATE 203090, 77 ROME 14171

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1376668 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)

TAGS: PORG, US, FAO, IFAD

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d510784d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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